

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1949  
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2001  
OUTSTANDING ARREARS OF RAILWAYS  
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Railways have not been able to wipe out the outstanding arrears of renewal/replacement despite borrowings through IRFC;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the funds mobilized by the IRFC is not only being utilized for the procurement of wagons but for the coaches and locomotives;
- (d) if so, whether railways is utilising high cost market borrowing for sustaining loss making operations; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken or being taken by the railways to make radical reforms in the financial discipline in the railways?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a) to (e) : A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1949 ASKED BY SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.11.2001 REGARDING OUTSTANDING ARREARS OF RAILWAYS

(a) & (b): While market borrowings through Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) are used to finance acquisition of rolling stock assets only, renewal/replacement of other over-aged assets are funded from out of internal resources of Railways. On account of inadequate internal generation, renewals/ replacements could not be done as per arisings, resulting in arrears.

The arrears of renewal/replacements are as follows:

|                                        |            |
|----------------------------------------|------------|
| • Arrears in Track renewals            | 17500 kms. |
| • Distressed Bridges                   | 515        |
| • Overaged Signaling gear stations     | 2188       |
| • Overaged Coaches                     | 2513       |
| • Overaged Wagons (Four Wheeler Units) | 27105      |

(c): Yes, Sir. The funds mobilized by IRFC are used to finance the acquisition of wagons as well as locomotives and coaches.

(d) & (e): No, Sir. The service borrowings from IRFC are used exclusively to fund acquisition of rolling stock which are revenue generating and justifiable; the funds are not being utilised for sustaining loss-making operations. Regular review of all expenditures is being carried out by Railways, keeping in view the operational needs and priorities as well as the available resources.